

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Information on the Electric Power Industry, Including VEB Kraftwerk Trattendorf and VEB Kraftwerk Hirschfelde	DATE DISTR.	16 June 1955
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

General

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1. The direction of the further technical management of the East German electric-power program has been placed in the hands of the Dresden office of VEB Energie Projektierung. The head of this office is Dr. Stuemmel (fnu). The new labor directors of both VEB Energie Projektierung and VEB Konstruktion und Entwicklung Energiemaschinen, Berlin-Wilhelmsruh, are former KVP officers.

VEB Kraftwerk Trattendorf

2. Plant Number 3 of VEB Kraftwerk Trattendorf had not been completed as of January 1955, although the frequently postponed date for the turbine to go into operation had been finally set for 21 December 1954. However, a 25-megawatt turbogenerator had been installed. About 25 SSD men arrived on 21 December from Berlin to observe the first running of the turbine. They put extraordinary security measures into effect. The turbine was run at 1,000 revolutions per minute, which is one-third of its normal speed. The condenser pipes were not connected during this test running; it was feared that the welding involved in assembling the condenser pressure pipes (Kondensatordruckrohre) in the cold December weather would cause strains (Spannungen), and it was decided to wait until spring to do this and the other work necessary to prepare the turbine for full operation. It had been planned to complete Plant Number 3 by the end of 1955 and it is to have a total production capacity of 150 megawatts. However, approximately 70 or 80 million DME will be required to complete the plant, but only 44 million DME had been approved for this purpose as of January 1955. Consequently, only four generators will be completed in 1955, the remaining two in 1956.

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3. Plant Number 1 of VEB Kraftwerk Trattendorf was to be equipped with one 25-megawatt generator and one 50-megawatt generator and a boiler installation in 1955. However, since only 25 million DME had been approved for this plant, only the boiler installation can be installed in 1955. The two boilers are to be of different types, one to be built by L. & C. Steinmueller GmbH, Gummersbach.

This was done at the specific request of the Ministry for Machine Construction. The reason is the Ministry's desired that employees of the Ministry learn about the construction of boilers, and selected technical employees will be instructed to be present when the boilers are installed in the plant. These men are to pose as laborers, so that the personnel installing the boilers will not suspect their actual mission. This mission is to learn all the details possible about boiler construction and even to attempt to obtain blueprints and other documentary material.

VEB Kraftwerke Hirschfelde

4. Veb Kraftwerke Hirschfelde, which operates on Polish coal of the worst quality, was to make a test running of a 50-megawatt turbine belonging to Generator Number 3 on 31 December 1954. This installation was manufactured by the Turbinenfabrik Goerlitz. The principal components were already on hand in Goerlitz, having been manufactured before 1945 by Bumag. However, it was not yet operating on 11 January 1955 because the water-circulating pump was out of order and condenser pipe was not on hand. The current-producing generator for this turbine was to be delivered by Siemens-Schuckert on 15 February 1955. It is hydrogen-cooled, and consequently of considerable interest for East Germany - they will probably try to copy it.

1. Comment:

possibly a typographical error for
(water-cooled).

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